Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 137808 ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 L-03 PRS-01 H-01 OMB-01 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/OMA:CHERVIN APPROVED BY EB/PHBOEKER EUR/WE:KSMITH TREAS:POCONNELL EUR/NE:EDJEREJIAN

-----142240Z 068901 /70

P 142104Z JUN 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, PO, NL

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL

REF: STATE 127729

- 1. AMBASSADOR IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH HIGH LEVEL GON OFFICIALS TO URGE A POSITIVE AND TIMELY GON DECISION ON PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL LENDING ARRANGEMENT FOR PORTUGAL.
- 2. THE U.S. APPRECIATES SPECIAL GON DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING A SUITABLE MODALITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED LENDING ARRANGEMENT. WHILE DISBURSEMENT OF A GON CONTRIBUTION MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR, WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE HAGUE WOULD BE PREPARED TO ANNOUNCE ITS INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE AND THE LIKELY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAGNITUDE OF ITS CONTRIBUTION AT THE JUNE 22 MEETING.

3. THE U.S. BELIEVES THE PROPOSED LENDING ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE AN EFFECTIVE MEANS TO RATIONALIZE MEDIUM-TERM ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL. IT WOULD ALSO ALLOW SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY SO THAT INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES CAN MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH FINANCING MECHANISMS WHICH BEST SUIT

THEIR ABILITIES. WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK FOR LOANS SPECIFIED AT THE MAY 16 MEETING COUNTRIES ARE CONSIDERING SEVERAL

MODALITIES FOR INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS. THESE INCLUDE
(1) APPROPRIATED FUNDS SUCH AS THE PROPOSED U.S. CREDIT,
(2) CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED AID
BUDGETS, (3) CENTRAL BANK CREDITS WHERE A MEDIUM-TERM
MECHANISM EXISTS, (4) UNTIED CREDITS FROM EXPORT-IMPORT
BANKS, (5) OFFICIALLY GUARANTEED PRIVATE BANK LOANS. IT
IS OUR UNDERSTANDING FOR EXAMPLE THAT THE GON MAY HAVE
CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY TO REPROGRAM ASSISTANCE FUNDS
WITHIN ITS AID BUDGET. WE URGE THE GON TO CONTINUE TO
EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE MECHANISMS TO ENABLE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSISTANCE EFFORT FOR PORTUGAL.

4. THE U.S. IS ANTICIPATING A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME TO THE JUNE 22 MEETING. INFORMALLY, AMBASSADOR MAY INDICATE THAT COUNTRIES WHICH ARE ALREADY PREPARED TO MAKE A POSITIVE ANNOUNCEMENT INCLUDE THE U.S., THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY, SWITZERLAND, AND NORWAY. ALTHOUGH STILL UNSURE OF THE MODALITY OF THEIR ASSISTANCE, THE JAPANESE HAVE EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION. SIMILARLY, OTHER COUNTRIES INCLUDING CANADA, AUSTRIA, SWEDEN, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND VENEZUELA HAVE INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE, BUT HAVE NOT SPECIFIED THE FORM OR AMOUNT FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE. FOR ITS PART, THE PROPOSED U.S. LOAN IS GAINING INCREASING SUPPORT IN THE U.S. CONGRESS. THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE APPROVED THE \$300 MILLION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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U.S. LOAN JUNE 14. WE EXPECT A FAVORABLE SENATE ACTION ON THE APPROPRIATION BY THE END OF JUNE. THE U.S. IS CONFIDENT THAT OUR CONGRESS WILL APPROVE THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION AND THAT THE SUPPORT OF OTHER COUNTRIES WILL MAKE THIS A SUBSTANTIAL AND TRULY INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKING.

5. PLEASE EMPHASIZE THAT MAINTAINING PORTUGAL'S YOUNG DEMOCRACY IS INTIMATELY LINKED TO RESOLUTION OF PORTUGAL'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEM, AS WAS BROADLY AGREED AT THE MAY 16 MEETING. GIVEN THE NETHERLANDS STRONG DEMOCRATIC TRADITION AND ROLE IN THE EC WE WOULD HOPE THAT IT WOULD JOIN THE GROWING LIST OF COUNTRIES PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN A JOINT EFFORT TO MEET PORTUGAL'S NEEDS. CHRISTOPHER

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R 160229Z JUN 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

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FOL REPEAT STATE 137808 ACTION THE HAGUE DTD 14 JUN.

QUOTE

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	Margaret P. Grafeiu	Deciassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, PO, NL

To: THE HAGUE Type: TE

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